

February 9-11, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: Brian Dickerson: Policing state's highest court; Hathaway's quick resignation helps colleagues skirt a disciplinary thicket

"Former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Diane Hathaway didn't reach the halfway mark of her first term before she was forced to resign in disgrace -- and she may do federal prison time before her meteoric fall from grace reaches bottom."

Full story

The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court: Medical pot shops not legal

"The Michigan Supreme Court ruled Friday the state's medical marijuana law makes dispensaries illegal, throwing owners and patients into panicked uncertainty. State officials said the justices' 4-1 decision goes into 'immediate effect' and could mean legal action against dispensaries that don't close."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Medical pot sellers disappointed by ban on dispensaries

Full story

Associated Press: Bill coming to legalize medical-pot dispensaries

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Lansing State Journal, the Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor and WILX-TV(10)/Lansing.

Daily Press & Argus: Denise Pollicella guest column: Court abandons marijuana patients

Full story

The Daily Tribune: Oakland County law enforcement pleased with pot ruling

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb Daily and the Oakland Press.

Detroit Legal News: State high court rules Medical-pot dispensaries illegal; Justice Cavanagh dissents in 4-1 ruling

Full story

Flint Journal: Michigan Supreme Court medical marijuana decision won't close Genesee County dispensaries, owners say

Full story

Grand Rapids Press: Michigan shows 'zeal to make felons' out of medical marijuana providers, Grand Rapids attorney says

Full story

Kalamazoo Gazette: Kalamazoo-area prosecutors, medical marijuana attorney offer mixed reactions to Supreme Court ruling

Full story

Kalamazoo Gazette: Medical marijuana registry sees sharp rise in Southwest Michigan patients

Full story

The Oakland Press Blog: Michigan Supreme Court Shuts Down Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

Full story

The Oakland Press: AG SCHUETTE: County prosecutors empowered to shut down marijuana dispensaries

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Court: Pot shops can't charge for product

Full story

WKAR News/East Lansing: Michigan Supreme Court: Medical Pot Dispensaries Can Be Shut Down As Public Nuisance

Full story

WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Updated: State Supreme Court Outlaws Pot Shops

Full story

WILX-TV(10)/Lansing: MI Supreme Court: Medical Pot Dispensaries Illegal

Full story

WJR 760 AM/Detroit: Paul W. Smith talks to Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard about the Supreme Court's opinion regarding medical marijuana (4:23 minute podcast)

Podcast

The Detroit News: Wayne County judge sued over relationship in child support case

"A Clinton Township man says his civil rights were violated in a child support case because a Wayne County judge was having a sexual relationship with the mother of his child. Robert King filed a lawsuit in federal court Monday against Judge Wade McCree and Geniene La'Shay Mott."

Full story

Also see:

Associated Press: Judge sued over relationship in child support case

Full story

The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court suspends Wayne Co. judge in sex flap

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Wayne County Circuit Judge Wade McCree suspended without pay

Full story

The Daily Tribune: Michigan Supreme Court suspends Wayne County judge

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb Daily.

Detroit Legal News: Court suspends Judge McCree

Full story

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Supreme Court suspends Judge Wade McCree (video)

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Lawsuit info kept secret -- and why is its own puzzle; Improper shielding a problem in justice system, experts say

"Michigan court proceedings and records are supposed to be open to the public with few exceptions. But an Ingham County judge was surprised to learn last fall that an entire case she was presiding over had been placed on a 'nonpublic docket.' "

Full story

Also see:

SBM Blog: Miller Canfield Management Lawsuit Shines Spotlight On Issue Of Openness Of Court Records

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Michigan lauded for efficiency in federal gun background checks

"... Michigan has one of the best records for submitting information on individuals whom the courts have deemed mentally ill, but Milton L. Mack Jr., chief judge of the Wayne Probate Court, says the system 'doesn't come close' to identifying all those with mental illness who shouldn't be buying guns and believes the best solution is reforming mental health care."

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Lake County whistle-blower wins Supreme Court case

"The Michigan Supreme Court has reinstated a \$350,000 verdict for a woman who lost her job as head of a county 911 service when she complained that money was being misspent. Cheryl DeBano-Griffin filed a whistle-blower's lawsuit against Lake County commissioners."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Lansing State Journal.

Also see:

MLive.com: Former 911 director's \$350,000 whistle-blower verdict against Lake County reinstated

[Full story](#)

Battle Creek Enquirer: Swain conviction has new prosecutor's support

"Calhoun County's new prosecutor, like his predecessor, said Friday he will continue to support the sexual assault conviction of a Burlington woman, Lorinda Swain."

[Full story](#)

**** The article is available by subscription only.**

Daily Press & Argus: Woman faces life for abuse

"The family of a 4-year-old boy tortured by his stepgrandmother in 2011 said they are pleased her Friday plea to a felony charge will put her in prison. Sara Rae Walters sometimes smiled as she listened to the judge accept her no-contest plea to first-degree child abuse."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Fourth Annual Hon. Kaye Tertzag Tribute Dinner set for Feb. 28

"...The [Judge Kaye] Tertzag Tribute Dinner Committee selected Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack as the 2013 recipient of the Purple Sport Coat Award. Hon. David J. Allen (last year's recipient) will present her the award.... Michigan Supreme Court Justice Brian Zahra will be the keynote speaker."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Proceeds from event help homeless center at church

"... Proceeds [from the Winter Solstice Party December 21] — about \$2,000 this year — was donated to the Homeless Drop-in Center at Cass United Methodist Church in Detroit.... Supporters and friends, including Wayne County Circuit Judge Carole Youngblood, a veteran Winter Solstice Party attendee, began trickling in at 5 p.m., and by closing time it was standing room only."

[Full story](#)

Gaylord Herald Times: Obituary: Judge William A. Porter

"William A. Porter, 72, died Feb. 7, 2013, after a long and valiant battle with Parkinson's disease.... He was the prosecutor for Otsego County and Judge of the 87th District, before becoming Judge of the 46th Circuit at age 32. Bill retired from the bench in 1996."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Grand Rapids judge calls man charged with unarmed robbery 'an angel' compared to co-defendants

"A judge cracked down hard on three men who quietly laughed and snickered during a recent hearing on accusations that they flashed a gun at a 14-year-old during a robbery. If they wanted to act like kids, Grand Rapids District Judge David Buter said, they could. He immediately pushed their bond amount up to ensure they would remain behind bars."

[Full story](#)

Jackson County Legal News: Michigan Court of Appeals scolds workers' comp commissioner

"In a recent unpublished decision, it took a Court of Appeals panel one sentence to affirm a Workers' Compensation Appellate Commission's award of benefits, and about a page and a half to scold dissenting Commissioner Gregory Przybylo."

[Full story](#)

Jackson County Legal News: Former Jackson judge pleads guilty to willful neglect of duty

"The Associated Press has reported that James Justin, a former Jackson County judge accused of dismissing traffic tickets issued to his wife and court staff without just cause, pleaded guilty Feb. 5 to four misdemeanor counts of willful neglect of duty."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Familiar look at the top of RESTORE Foundation

"For much of the past decade, he presided over the juvenile drug court program in Oakland County, a judicial assignment that became a 'labor of love' for the longtime jurist."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Muskegon County child neglect and abuse cases surge, courts cope by reorganizing

"A surge in child neglect and abuse cases, combined with new state mandates, has led to a major reorganization of Muskegon County's courts. The Michigan Supreme Court recently gave final approval to a plan, already enacted, to: Beef up family court coverage, start a business court, and reduce court resources devoted to felony criminal and major civil cases."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Muskegon County Clerk's office to close for move back to Hall of Justice

"The main Muskegon County Clerk's office will close for three days Wednesday through Friday as it moves back to the Hall of Justice. The Muskegon County Clerk's Vital Records, Elections and Genealogy Office has been on the second floor of the county's Central Services Building at 141 E. Apple Ave. for a few years while its traditional space at the Michael E. Kobza Hall of Justice was renovated."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Legal Aid and Defender to conduct free small claims workshop, Feb. 19

"Legal Aid and Defender Association Inc. (LAD) will conduct a free workshop for residents of Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland counties on how to represent themselves in small claims court and collect money judgments."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Supreme Court spikes suit over road dust, fatal crash

"The family of a teenager who was killed while driving to perform at a high school graduation can't sue a northern Michigan road agency over dust blamed for the fatal crash, the state Supreme Court said last Thursday."

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: A Scholar's A Scholar, A Judge Is A Judge?

"With a law school professor now on the Michigan Supreme Court and a new appointment pending, Eugene Volokh at Volokh Conspiracy asks a pertinent question: 'When A Scholar Becomes a Judge, How Much Does Legal Scholarship Indicate Likely Decisions on the Bench?' "

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Monday Profile: Robert Carbeck

"Washtenaw County Deputy Court Administrator Bob Carbeck was born and raised in Ann Arbor. The University of Michigan graduate moved back to Ann Arbor after earning his JD from California Western School of Law in San Diego."

[Full story](#)

WKBD-TV(50)/Detroit: Street Beat: Bullying Segment 3 (5:58 minute podcast)

Roxanne Steele talks with Bonnie Hanes and Kenzi Bisbing of the Oakland Mediation Center regarding how mediation might help with school anti-bullying efforts.

[Podcast](#)